

26 May

Trinity Sunday

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us, your servants, grace, by the confession of a true faith to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

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Corpus Christi

Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament, you have given us the memorial of your passion: grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your body and blood, that we may know within ourselves and show forth in our lives, the fruits of your redemption; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth

Mighty God, by whose grace Elizabeth rejoiced with Mary and greeted her as the mother of the Lord: look with favour on your lowly servants that, with Mary, we may magnify your holy name and rejoice to acclaim her Son our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

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1 June

**Justin
Martyr, c. 165**

God our redeemer, who through the folly of the cross taught your martyr Justin the surpassing knowledge of Jesus Christ: remove from us every kind of error that we, like him, may be firmly grounded in the faith, and make your name known to all peoples; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

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1 June

**Justin
Martyr at Rome**

Justin was born at the beginning of the second century in Palestine. As a young man he explored many different philosophies before, at the age of thirty, embracing Christianity. He continued to wear the distinctive dress of a professional philosopher, and taught Christianity as a philosophy first at Ephesus, and later at Rome. He became an outstanding apologist for the Christian faith, and is honoured as the first Christian thinker to enter into serious dialogue with the other intellectual disciplines of his day, including Judaism. Justin always sought to reconcile the claims of faith and reason. It was at Rome in about the year 165 that he and some of his disciples were denounced at Christians, and beheaded. The authentic record of their martyrdom based on an official court report has survived. Traditionally, Justin is often surnamed 'Martyr' because of his two-fold witness to Christ, through his apologetic writings and his manner of death.

Sourced from 'Exciting Holiness'

5 June

**Boniface (Wynfrith) of Crediton,
Bishop, Apostle of Germany,
Martyr 754**

God our redeemer, who called your servant Boniface to preach the gospel among the German people and to build up your Church in holiness: grant that we may preserve in our hearts that faith which he taught with his words and sealed with his blood, and profess it in lives dedicated to your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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5 June

**Boniface (Wynfrith) of Crediton
Bishop, Apostle of Germany, Martyr**

Born in Crediton in Devon in about the year 675, Wynfrith took the name Boniface when he entered the monastery in Exeter as a young man. He became a Latin scholar and poet and was ordained when he was thirty years old. He rejected a safe ecclesiastical career in England and, in the year 716, became a missionary to Frisia, following in the steps of Willibrord. He eventually was commissioned by the Pope to work in Hesse and Bavaria where he went after consecration as Bishop in the year 722. He courageously felled a sacred oak at Geismar and, since the pagan gods did not come to the rescue, widespread conversion followed. He was the founder of a string of monasteries across southern Germany and made sure that they were places of learning, so that evangelisation could continue. He was made Archbishop of Mainz in the year 732, where he consecrated many missionary Bishops. He worked assiduously for the reform of the Church in France and managed to ensure that the more stable Rule of St Benedict was adhered to in her monasteries. He crowned Pepin as the Frankish King in 751 but was already very old. While waiting for some new Christians to arrive for confirmation, he was murdered by a band of pagans on this day in the year 754. He has been judged as having a deeper influence on European history than any other Englishman.

Sourced from 'Exciting Holiness'

8 June

**Thomas Ken
Bishop of Bath and Wells,
Nonjuror, hymn writer 1711**

O God, from whom all blessings flow, by whose providence we are kept and by whose grace we are directed: help us, through the example of your servant Thomas Ken, faithfully to keep your word, humbly to accept adversity and steadfastly to worship you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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8 June

**Thomas Ken
Bishop of Bath and Wells, Nonjuror, hymn
writer**

Thomas Ken was born at Berkhamstead in 1637 and educated at New College, Oxford. He was ordained priest in 1662 and worked first in a poor parish in the diocese of Winchester and then at Winchester College for ten years. He served as Chaplain to King Charles II for two years and was then consecrated Bishop of Bath and Wells. After the King's death and the accession of the Roman Catholic James II, the new King proposed to rescind the Restoration penal laws, but Thomas and six of his fellow Bishops refused to comply with this and were imprisoned on this day in 1688. But such was the integrity of Thomas that, when the King abandoned his throne and fled, and the King's Protestant daughter Mary was offered the throne, together with her husband William of Orange, Thomas felt unable in good conscience to forswear his living, anointed Monarch. He was deprived of his See, along with many other nonjurors, as they became known, and for a time there was schism in the Anglican fold. But Thomas spent his final twenty years in quiet retirement, anxious not to make trouble, and renounced his rights to his bishopric. He wrote many hymns, still much used, and died on 19 March 1711.

Sourced from 'Exciting Holiness'